

Changes in New Codes

Fire Retardant Reroof Code Change

With the adoption of the new Building Code on November 1, 2002 a significant change will occur in the regulation governing the use of wood shake or shingle roofing. For further details, refer to section 1503.3 of 2000 CBC.

- Any new roofing material applied (including repairs), must have a class C minimum rating.
- When more than 50% of the roof area is being replaced, within a 12 month period, the entire existing roof will be required to be replaced with a class C minimum roof.

Fire retardant shakes and shingles comply as a class C minimum roofing material.

Previously, class C roofing material was only required for new structures and additions or when 50 percent or more of the roof area was being reroofed.

Rating	Description
Class A	Most effective against severe fire exposure. Roof covering of this class are not readily flammable, afford a fairly high degree of fire protection. A class A roof covering is designed to withstand exposure to a temperature of 1400 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of 30 minutes and will withstand the burning of a 12" by 12" by 2-1/4" burning brand.
Class B	Effective against moderate fire exposure. Under such exposure it is not readily flammable. A class B roof covering is designed to withstand exposure to a temperature of 1400 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of 16 minutes and will withstand the burning of a 6" by 6" by 2-1/4" burning brand.
Class C	Effective against light fire exposure. A class C roof covering is designed to withstand exposure to a temperature of 1300 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of 3 minutes and will withstand the burning of a 1-1/2" by 1-1/2" by 25/32" burning brand.

The classification of roofing systems is not dependant solely on the roofing material, it is a factor of the entire roofing assembly, i.e. roof sheathing, interlayments, underlayments and roofing material. Determination of roof classification can be obtained from manufacturers installation specifications. For further details, refer to chapter 15 of 2000 CBC.